

THE LI HONG MI DEPORTATION CASE.

PRIVY COUNCIL REVERSES LOCAL DECISION.

The following telegram was received from London, on Saturday, by Messrs. Wilkenson and Grist, solicitors:—

"Li Hong Mi. Decision of Supreme Court reversed. Deportation invalid."

This refers to the appeal to the Privy Council of Mr. Li Hong Mi, a natural-born British subject who was formerly in the service of the Hongkong Government for many years, against the decision of the Full Court on June 12th, 1918, in the action which he brought to have a Deportation Order set aside and to recover damages from the Attorney-General, the Secretary for Chinese Affairs, and the Captain-Superintendent of Police on the ground that he had been wrongfully used during the legal proceedings which led up to the Order being made. Many vitally important points were raised during the legal proceedings which took place in Hongkong, as will be seen from the following leading article which we published at the time, and, consequently, the full judgment of the Privy Council will be awaited with great interest:—

In dismissing the action brought by Li Hong Mi, a natural-born British subject, praying for a Deportation Order issued against him by the local Government to be set aside, the Chief Justice made the following significant observations:—"The local Legislature has entrusted to a Government official powers of a most exceptional character; and it has, in express and unequivocal terms, given to the Governor-in-Council powers that override the generally accepted principles of the Common Law of England affecting the liberty of the subject; and in clear language it has provided that these powers cannot be challenged, assuming that the arbitrary procedure laid down by the Ordinance is complied with. This Court, therefore, has no power to overrule its actions." The case, it will be remembered, was argued for seven days before the Full Court, and in the course of it a number of extremely interesting points were raised. The plaintiff, who was a Government interpreter for many years until his retirement on pension, was arrested on a warrant on November 11th last year under the Deportation Ordinance, which had been passed the previous month, and was lodged in the Victoria Gaol, where his fingerprints were taken in the presence of several convicted criminals and he was physically examined by an Indian member of the gaol staff. Shortly afterwards, without being allowed to consult a solicitor, he was taken before the Secretary for Chinese Affairs, by whom he was informed that the offence alleged against him was the practice of champerty. He was not, however, allowed to see a single word of the evidence upon which this charge was based, or to know who his accusers were, much less to cross-examine them. He was questioned for about forty minutes, and gave full general denial of the various allegations brought against him—which, he contended, was all that he could do, as the circumstances precluded him from effectually making any defence. In the only instance in which a specific charge was brought—misappropriation of money collected for costs in a certain action—Li Hong Mi suggested certain means of investigating the matter, and, as a result, nothing more was heard of it. The Secretary for Chinese Affairs forwarded an adverse report to the Executive Council, of which he is a member, and an Order for Deportation followed. The plaintiff contended that the Ordinance under which the proceedings were taken was *ultra vires* because it conflicted with the rights secured by Magna Charta, and was repugnant to natural justice. The Government's reply was that they were justified in the course they took by the provisions of the Ordinance, and that the Court had no jurisdiction in the matter. The Colonial Laws Validity Act removed all doubts as to the right of the local Legislature to pass any Ordinance which did not conflict with a law that had been expressly extended to the Colony by the British Parliament. With this qualification there was, therefore, no limit whatever to the powers of the Legislature to pass any Ordinance which in its opinion was conducive to the peace, order, and good government of the Colony. If the local Legislature saw fit to pass an Ordinance against one man personally which would deprive him of his property, his civil rights, and even his life, it had the power to do so, subject only to the Royal veto. It will be seen that the Court upholds this view, but the Chief Justice considers it "most desirable" that the case should be taken to the Privy Council. According to Mr. Alabaster (who, with the Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., represented the plaintiff) this is the first time in the history of British Colonial legislation that a natural-born British subject has been made liable to absolute and unconditional banishment. The Ordinance, it was pointed out, gave the Governor-in-Council power to send a person convicted under it anywhere, but it was urged that the only place which was bound to receive him was the place to which he belonged. The Crown could not get rid of the obligations which were accepted in exchange for allegiance. A place of settlement was acquired at birth; in this case it was Penang—but another could also be gained by residence, and the plaintiff therefore "belonged" to Hongkong, where he had resided for so great a part of his life. It is impossible to review the case without a feeling of surprise that it should be possible for the Governor of a Crown Colony, with

A UNIVERSITY WEDDING.

THOMAS-GOURDIN.

Union Church, Kennedy Road, was most tastefully decorated on Saturday, February 21st, when at 11 o'clock, Mr. George Harold Thomas, M.D., of the Tung Wah Hospital, was joined in matrimony with Miss Nora Gourdin, the third daughter of the late Mr. A. O'D. Gourdin and of Mrs. Gourdin of 35, Nathan Road, Kowloon. The bride was given away by her mother, and attended by her sister, Miss Kathleen Gourdin as bridesmaid. The duties of best man were performed by the Registrar of the University of Hongkong, Mr. N. Teedale Macintosh, M.A. The service was most impressively performed by Rev. J. Kirk Macdonald.

Although the wedding was of a very quiet character and invitations had been issued only to the most intimate friends and relations, the Church was well filled with University professors and students, and quite a procession of cars carried the guests from the Church to the Hongkong Hotel, where an informal reception was held. Among the guests were to be noticed Hon. Dr. Claud Severn, Dr. and Mrs. Jordan, Sir Robert Ho Tung, Hon. Mr. Ho Fock, Mr. Franka, Professor and Mrs. Digby, Mr. E. Ralphs, Professor Warren, Dr. McKenny, Dr. and Mrs. Koch, Dr. Arthur Woo, Rev. and Mrs. J. Kirk Macdonald, Miss Skipton, and Professor Brown.

The health of the bride and bridegroom was proposed by Dr. G. P. Jordan, the pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University. Dr. Jordan reminded the guests that Mr. Thomas was a graduate of the Hongkong University, and the first to have obtained the further degree of M.D. from there; the bride, whom he had known from swaddling clothes, was certainly entrusting herself to one well-fitted to look after her welfare in every way. Dr. Thomas replied for himself and his wife, and proposed the health of the bridesmaid, Miss Nora Gourdin. Mr. Teedale Macintosh replied on behalf of the bridesmaid: The happy couple left amidst the hearty cheers and good wishes of their guests.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT ABERDEEN.

OVER THIRTY HOUSES DESTROYED.

NO LIVES LOST.

Early on Saturday morning a fire broke out in the village of Aberdeen. At one stage it appeared as if it would destroy the whole village, but the Fire Brigade turned up in the nick of time and managed to stay the progress of the flames, which had enveloped over thirty houses. Fortunately no lives are reported to have been lost.

The origin of the conflagration remains a mystery at present, as it commenced in an untenanted house in the main street of Aberdeen. In an incredibly short space of time the flames had spread to several houses, which had been immediately vacated by the owners, and Sergeant Davis, sent an urgent message to the Central Fire Station. Till the arrival of the city fire brigade, the appliances at Aberdeen were put to good use, and when reinforcements arrived a grim struggle for mastery commenced. For over two hours the fire-fighters engaged in a dangerous battle with the flames and their arduous labours were rewarded by the fire being got under control. Attention was then directed to the buildings which were comparatively safe and these were deluged with water. Altogether thirty houses were completely destroyed and six more or less damaged. The buildings were of the two-storied type and stretched through the Main Street.

the aid of an automatic official majority, to make a law, possessing all the authority of a law passed through both Houses of the Imperial Parliament, depriving a British subject of his birth-right—the right to the protection of the regularly constituted Courts in a criminal charge, and substitute for it what has been not inaptly likened to "Star Chamber" procedure. We wonder whether the unofficial members of the Legislative Council realised their responsibility when they assented to the Bill without a single word of discussion. We notice that, in moving the second reading, the Attorney-General explained that the measure gave power to banish any person who was "guilty" of the malpractices referred to in specified paragraphs. It will be noticed in this connection, that the Chief Justice said: "In the course of his judgment, 'We are asked to assume that the Governor-in-Council had before it proper and sufficient evidence to support the allegations, and that the reports on which the allegations were based justified such allegations. In my opinion we are not called upon to assume anything of this kind. We are bound by the language of the Ordinance and the Court has no power

PIRACY IN THE HARBOUR.

CUSTOMS LAUNCH ATTACKED.

ONE MAN REPORTED KILLED, TWO INJURED.

Early yesterday morning a piracy took place on board the *Kowloon Tyr*, a Customs' launch, during the course of which a number of the crew was killed and his body thrown overboard, and two others injured.

The reason for the attack is not at present known, as there were no valuables on board, except some rifles and ammunition and the personal effects of the crew. The launch was anchored off the Blue Buildings, and was amongst several other craft moored there. The crew about five in number, were sleeping on deck when another boat, containing seven or eight men, drew alongside the launch. These men clambered on deck and woke the crew whom they forced down the hatch. A grim struggle ensued between the crew and the pirates, but the latter had the best of it; as they were armed, some with knives and the others with hammers. Two of the *fokis* were badly injured on the head, while a third, a cook, is reported to have been murdered and his body thrown overboard. The pirates then closed down the hatch, and having secured the crew, commenced to ransack the launch. They took eight rifles, two revolvers, and four suits of clothing and then left the launch. They got into the boat they came by and made off in an unknown direction. The imprisoned crew managed to open the hatch and gaining the deck sought the assistance of the Police by blowing the siren. The Water Police immediately went to the scene, and, after examining the launch, scoured the harbour for the pirates, but without success. The injured men were removed to the hospital by the Wanchai Police and are said to be in a serious condition.

THE MAGISTRACY.

"A NEW YEAR CUMSHAW."

When a Chinese was charged at the Magistracy, on Saturday, with hawking chickens, without a licence, he informed the Magistrate that he was merely taking a new year *cumshaw* to his customers. This tale, however, had been repeated once too often, and the hawker left the Court sadder and wiser, because also the poorer by \$10.

CONSCIENCE STRICKEN!

A Chinese was charged, on Saturday, with stealing a quantity of jewellery and clothing, from No. 10, Anton Street. Defendant was caught, while leaving the premises and he surrendered the stolen property. He told the Magistrate that he had never stolen anything before. He passed the house on Friday night and seeing the door open walked in. He was then tempted to remove some of the things. Going downstairs, however, his conscience became heavy and he was sorry he had taken the articles. He, therefore, remained in the house till complainants came and gave himself up. Defendant was sentenced to three months' hard labour.

STEALING OVER-COATS.

A Chinese was sentenced to four months' hard labour for stealing two over-coats belonging to Messrs. Clark and Buckle, borough, of Kowloon. The coats were discovered by the Police in a pawnshop.

STREET BRAWL ENDS IN MURDER.

ALLEGED ASSAILANT ARRESTED.

At the Magistracy, on Saturday, a Chinese was charged with the murder of a little boy at West Point.

Inspector Kent stated that on Wednesday last deceased went to the prisoner's house to gamble and was there asked by the former to pawn a cap for him. This the boy refused to do. A few minutes later, the prisoner requested the deceased to pawn a jacket for him and deceased complied with the request. On his return prisoner slapped him and this led to a fight which took place in the street. Prisoner and the deceased armed themselves with poles, and in the course of the fight prisoner was alleged to have struck the boy three times on the head. The fight was eventually stopped and the boy was home where he died next morning, the cause being fracture of the skull. Mr. Wood remanded the case.

THE SUICIDE OF CHINA.

EVILS THAT ARE RAMPANT.

The gathering of the alumni of the Christian Colleges of China, at Shanghai, last week, was rendered especially notable on account of an address delivered by the chairman, Mr. E. S. Ling, on the subject of "China's suicidal factors and her only salvation."

At the outset of his address Mr. Ling pointed out that for the past eight years China had been a republic in name only. To-day the country was in danger not so much from without as from within, and he would group the destructive forces under three headings, political, commercial and individual. Under the first of these headings he included misgovernment, corruption, the muzzling of public opinion, the *likin* tax, and insecurity of office.

OFFICIAL FORTUNES.

As illustrating the corruption of the country he said:—

"It has been reported that there are 20 officials, each of whom has deposited \$10,000,000 in the foreign banks of Hongkong, beside many others in this country whose fortunes range from one to five millions. If the reports are true, where did they get their fortunes, if not by clandestine robbery from the national revenues? It is sad to depict that even some of those 'enlightened' in foreign countries have been contaminated with this crime. Will education alone save the country from being looted? The more educated, sometimes, the greater, the plunderer. If we do not attempt to reform it, some external power will, to our eternal disgrace, step in and take a hand in our government."

A PASSION FOR POKER.

As commercial factors in the suicide of the country he, instanced lethargy and mismanagement, and under the individual heading he pointed to graft, gambling, indolence and obscene reading. He said that the biggest gamblers were the officials, who in Peking, Peking and other cities would throw away with ease a lakh of dollars. Under the Manchus they were afraid of impeachment, but to-day they had no censors, and public sentiment was not strong enough to check the evil. It was reported that last year 5,000,000 sets of poker cards were sold in this country to the value of \$1,000,000, and last month 100,000 sets from Japan were sold in 10 days. Who would help to uproot this social evil?

PROPOSED TUBE RAILWAY FOR TOKYO.

The company to be floated in Tokyo for the construction of an underground railway tapping the most important district of the metropolis will issue invitations for public subscription about the end of this month. With the growing congestion of the street car service and the electric trains, there is little doubt that the new venture will appeal to the public, and will be a profitable investment, says the *Japan Advertiser*.

It is proposed to engage the services of Mr. J. V. Horgy, who has served in the London "tubes" for over ten years and is thought to be the soundest English "tube engineer." Mr. Horgy, it is rumoured, will be paid ¥10,000 per month.

SIBERIAN REFUGEES.

Donations of clothes, boots, etc., have been received from the following:—Mrs. G. Dodwell, 10, Stewart Terrace; Mrs. Lander, St. Paul's College; Mrs. J. W. Donald, 2, Canton Villas, Kowloon; Mrs. Howe, Hongkong Hotel; Mrs. Grimshaw and ladies of Quarry Bay (3 pairs socks); Mr. R. A. Gubbay, Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co.; Anonymous, per Mrs. W. Dunbar.

Six parcels of clothes were received anonymously.

\$10 was given in from Races, and this was at once spent on warm combinations for children.

Three boxes were packed and sent direct to Vladivostok, per H.M.S. Carlisle, by the kindness of Capt. Carrington.

Grateful thanks are given for the above, and the collectors continue their appeal for more, as much as they can get. Anything can be used, and will find a place amongst the thousands of destitute refugees swarming into Vladivostok.

Please mark parcels, "Siberian Refugees," and put name and address of sender, and send to:—Mrs. Stubb, St. John's Place, Garden Road, Mrs. Moorhead, 150, Peak, Mrs. W. Dunbar, 7, Queen's Gardens, or to the Helena May Institute, Garden Road.

STRAITS INCOME TAX.

The Income Tax Ordinance as assented to by the Officer Administering the Government contains the following scales:—

Not less than \$5,000 but less than \$6,000 2 per cent.
Not less than \$6,000 but less than \$7,200 3 per cent.
Not less than \$7,200 but less than \$8,400 4 per cent.
Not less than \$8,400 but less than \$12,000 5 per cent.
Not less than \$12,000 6 per cent.

FURNISHING FABRICS

FOR

LOOSE COVERS

IN

CRETONES

AND

TAFFETAS

WE HAVE A SPLENDID RANGE TO SELECT FROM AND SHALL BE PLEASED TO SEND PATTERNS.

ALL LOOSE COVERS ARE CUT BY EXPERIENCED MEN AND WE GUARANTEE PERFECT FIT.

TELEPHONE 1741.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Just received from U.S.A., a new shipment of Typewriters—different models.

Inspection cordially invited by—

UNIVERSAL IMPORT & EXPORT CO.,

HOTEL MANSIONS,

Top Floor,

HONGKONG.

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森
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行

COLUMBIA HUMOROUS RECORDS

NEW STOCK OF

"COHEN"

"CASEY"

"BILLY WILLIAMS"

ETC., ETC.

The Anderson Music Co., Ltd.,

16, Des Voeux Road,

Tel. 1322.

Powell Ltd

TELEPHONE 546

"ATLAS" REGD.

SHIRTS AND PYJAMAS

WEAR

AND

DYE

GUARANTEED.

New stock just received

in SMART DESIGNS

WITH STIFF in TAFFETA, FLANNEL

OF SOFT

DOUBLE

CUFF.

ZEPHYR, OXFORD,

SHIRTS from \$2.75. PYJAMAS from \$4.50.



NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

WE have This Day REMOVED Our Local Office to No. 15/17 Queen's Road Central at which address our Business will be conducted in future.
CHINA & JAPAN TELEPHONE & ELECTRIC CO., LTD.
(Incorporated in the United Kingdom)
Hongkong, February 23rd, 1920. 433

OPEN BILLIARD CHAMPIONSHIP of the Colony, 1920, held under the auspices of the VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB. Games in the Preliminary rounds will start at 8.30 p.m.
Admission 50 cents. Sailors and Soldiers in uniform half price. Members free.
R. H. B. MITCHELL,
Hon. Secretary.
Hongkong, February 23rd, 1920. 437

AMAH WANTED.

CAN any Lady recommend a good travelling Amah to accompany English Lady to England and look after baby of sixteen months.
Apply—
Box 454,
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
454

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

NOTICE

A ROWING REGATTA will be held at the Club House, North Point on SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27th.
By kind consent of the Admiral Commander-in-Chief and Officers, China Squadron, the Band of H.M.S. "Hawkins" will play Selections, and Tea will be served on the Lawn during the afternoon.
The Commodore and Committee will be at Home to Members and friends from 2.30 p.m. In the event of unfavourable weather, Dancing will take place in the Club House during intervals between events.
By Order,
R. E. MACDOUGALL,
Hon. Secretary.
Hongkong, February 19th, 1920. 455

G. R.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held TO-DAY (MONDAY), the 23rd day of FEBRUARY, 1920, at 3 p.m., at the Office of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of the following Lots of CROWN LAND at Mong Kok Farm, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOTS.

No. of Lot	Boundary Measurements	Containing	Annual Rent	Upset Price
1. No. 1321	North of Gov. Road, Lot No. 1321	As per plan, 1.275 14	765	
2. No. 1322	North of Gov. Road, Lot No. 1322	Do, 1.275 14	765	
3. No. 1323	North of Gov. Road, Lot No. 1323	Do, 1.275 14	765	
4. No. 1324	North of Gov. Road, Lot No. 1324	Do, 1.275 14	765	
5. No. 1325	North of Gov. Road, Lot No. 1325	Do, 1.275 14	765	
6. No. 1326	North of Gov. Road, Lot No. 1326	Do, 1.275 14	765	
7. No. 1327	North of Gov. Road, Lot No. 1327	Do, 1.275 14	765	
8. No. 1328	North of Gov. Road, Lot No. 1328	Do, 1.275 14	765	
9. No. 1329	North of Gov. Road, Lot No. 1329	Do, 1.275 14	765	
10. No. 1330	North of Gov. Road, Lot No. 1330	Do, 1.275 14	765	

G. R.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held TO-DAY (MONDAY), the 23rd day of FEBRUARY, 1920, at 3 p.m., at the Office of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of the following Lots of CROWN LAND at Shaikwan Road, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of Lot	Boundary Measurements	Containing	Annual Rent	Upset Price
1. No. 1331	North of Gov. Road, Lot No. 1331	As per plan, 1.275 14	765	
2. No. 1332	North of Gov. Road, Lot No. 1332	Do, 1.275 14	765	
3. No. 1333	North of Gov. Road, Lot No. 1333	Do, 1.275 14	765	
4. No. 1334	North of Gov. Road, Lot No. 1334	Do, 1.275 14	765	
5. No. 1335	North of Gov. Road, Lot No. 1335	Do, 1.275 14	765	
6. No. 1336	North of Gov. Road, Lot No. 1336	Do, 1.275 14	765	
7. No. 1337	North of Gov. Road, Lot No. 1337	Do, 1.275 14	765	
8. No. 1338	North of Gov. Road, Lot No. 1338	Do, 1.275 14	765	
9. No. 1339	North of Gov. Road, Lot No. 1339	Do, 1.275 14	765	
10. No. 1340	North of Gov. Road, Lot No. 1340	Do, 1.275 14	765	

FOR SALE.

MODERATE PRICE.

OWNER leaving Colony. Substantially built seven-roomed House, Peak, Large Veranda, Central Heating (Oil Fuel) making House dry and comfortable all times of the year. Lawn, Gardens, Hickory-house (Steam 7 minutes). Box-room, Good Basement, Cool in Summer, Warm and Sunny in Winter. Suitable for Taipei, or easily convertible into 3 houses during present shortage.
Apply—
Box 433,
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
Hongkong, February 16th. 433

A. G. DA ROCHA.

IS THE AUCTIONEER.

INTIMATIONS

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

MEMBERS are reminded that ENTRIES CLOSE on FEBRUARY 25th.
Hongkong, February 18th, 1920. 433

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS in this Corporation will be held at the CURT HALL, Hongkong on SATURDAY, the 27th day of FEBRUARY, 1920, at NOON, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Court of Directors together with a statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1919.
The REGISTER of SHARES of the Corporation will be CLOSED from MONDAY, February 16th, to SATURDAY, February 26th, 1920 (both days inclusive), during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.
By Order of the Court of Directors,
N. J. STARR,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, February 10th, 1920. 436

THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the TRANSFER BOOKS of the above named Company will be CLOSED from MONDAY, the 23rd day of FEBRUARY, 1920, to SATURDAY, the 27th day of FEBRUARY, 1920, both days inclusive.
Dated this 18th day of February, 1920.
By Order of the Board,
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents. 436

HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND FINANCE CO., LTD.

SHAREHOLDERS ARE NOTIFIED that the Dividend on account of the year 1919, of Sixty Cents (60 cents) per Share is now Payable at the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, Hongkong, on Warrants to be obtained at the Company's Office, Alexandra Buildings, Des Voeux Road, Central, Hongkong.
JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.
Hongkong, February 19th, 1920. 443

NEW FRENCH LOAN 5 PER CENT.

PRICE OF ISSUE FR. 100.

REDEEMABLE at FR. 150, in 80 years by half yearly drawings.
Interest payable on the 1st of May and 1st of November.
Drawings to take place on the 16th of March and the 16th of September of each year.
1st drawing on the 16th of September, 1920, 1st coupon of Fr. 3.50 to be paid on the 1st of November 1920.
Subscriptions will be received up to the 10th of March next by the
BANQUE DE L'INDO-CHINE,
L. BERENDOAGUE,
Manager.
Hongkong, February 16th, 1920. 437

NEW FRENCH LOAN 5 PER CENT.

1920.

UNDER THE GUARANTEE OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.

THE Local Branch of the BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE DE CHINE will receive subscriptions for the New French Loan 5 per cent. 1920, from the 19th February to the 10th of March next.
The Loan is free of income tax and redeemable in 80 years at 150 per cent by half-yearly drawings, the interest coupons being payable on 1st May and 1st November of each year.
Fully paid subscriptions at par.
Partly paid subscriptions at 101 per cent.
purporting:
Fr. 25.—when subscribing.
Fr. 25.—on the 1st of April.
Fr. 25.—on the 16th of July.
Fr. 25.—on the 1st of August 1920.
M. BOUET DE JOURNEL,
Manager.
Hongkong, February 16th, 1920. 438

TO LET FURNISHED.

6-ROOMED HOUSE at Barker Road, Magazine Gap, with Large Garden and Cement Tennis Court, for 6 months from April 1st, 1920.
For particulars apply to—
Box 124,
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
418

TO LET.

A GODOWN at Taumati.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND RECLAMATION CO., LTD.
307

TO LET.

A SHOP in Nathan Road, Kowloon.
Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO., LTD.,
Alexandra Buildings
306

AUCTIONS

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (For Account of the Concerned),
On WEDNESDAY,
February 25th, 1920, at 2.30 p.m.,
at No. 4, CANNARYON ROAD, KOWLOON,
VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE therein contained.
As follows:—

Handsomely carved Cherrywood Half-stand, Cabinets, Desk, Chairs, &c., large Chesterfield Sofa and Arm chairs, carpets and rugs, curtains, &c., Fumed Teak Dining Room Furniture, Electrolier and Kettle, Tantalus and Plated Ware.
Stained Teak Bed Room Suite good as new, large and small Teakwood Bedsteads made by Powell, camphorwood wardrobes, chest of drawers, &c., Pantry and Kitchen Utensils, &c., &c.
Also
Piano by Collard & Collard practically new, Victrola and Records, Electric Lights and Fan, Curtain Poles, &c.
(Full Particulars from Catalogue).
On view day of sale.
Terms—Cash.
HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.

On THURSDAY,
February 26th, 1920, at 10.30 a.m., at No. 444, Nathan Road First Floor, above Messrs. A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,
SUNDRY VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE &c., &c., therein contained consisting of:—
Dining Table and Chairs, Teakwood dinner waggons, Overmantels, &c., &c., bevelled mirrors, Carpets, Crockery, Glassware &c., &c.
Teakwood Double Bed, one pair Teakwood single Wardrobes, Chest of Drawers, Bureau and Dressing Tables &c., &c.
Two Sofas and pair of Arm-chairs, Bookcase, Hall-stand, &c., &c., also Victrola and Record Cabinet.
AND
Enamelled Bath in perfect condition.
Catalogue will be issued. On view from morning of sale.
Terms—Cash.
HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.

On THURSDAY,
February 26th, 1920, at 2.30 p.m., at the Government Office, 2, WONG NEI CHONG Road,
SUNDRY VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE &c., &c., therein contained consisting of:—
Teakwood Sideboard, Extension Dining Table and Chairs, Bookcase and Desk combined, Axminster Carpets and Rugs, Sofa and Arm-chairs, Pictures and Engravings, Crockery and Glassware, including one Dinner Service, &c., &c.
Teakwood Washstand, Dressing Table and Toilet Set, White Metal double Bed, circular Mosquito Net, &c., &c.
Teakwood Ice Chest, Meat Safe, Cooking Utensils &c., &c.
Also
One Piano by Brinsmead and Sons, "recently overhauled" and in good condition. And one Electric 12 inch Fan.
Catalogue will be issued.
On view from morning of sale.
Terms—Cash.
HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.

The Undersigned have received instructions from J. HYDE Esq., to sell by Public Auction,
On FRIDAY,
February 27th, 1920, at 2.30 p.m.,
at No. 6, TORREY BUILDINGS, KIMBERLY ROAD, KOWLOON,
the whole of the
VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE
Fittings &c., &c., therein contained.
Comprising:—Teakwood Hall Furniture, Blackwood Table and Stands, Axminster Hall and Stair Carpets, Drawing Room Suite by Lane, Crawford & Co., Brussels Carpet practically new (about 1914), Blackwood Cabinets, stands and Table, Pictures and Engravings, a number of lots of Chinese Porcelain, &c., comprising, Blue and white, 5-coloured, Pekinese, Cloisonne and Brass Ware, Curtains, &c., Solid Brass Fender and Fire Brasses, Fumed Teak Dining Room Suite with Silver Cabinet in good condition, Electro-plate, Sundry Cutlery, Glass and Crockery, &c., &c.
Bed Room Room Suite (Fumed Teak), Solid Double and Single Bedsteads, Box Mattresses, large and small Wardrobes, Linen Press, Washstands and Toilet Crockery, Bath Room and Kitchen Utensils, &c., &c.
Also
Upright Piano by Neumann, Hamburg, good tone excellent condition, Singer Treadle Sewing Machine, Lady's Bicycle, large Copper Boiler, Electric Fittings and Fans, Pot Plants, &c., &c.
(Full Particulars from Catalogue).
On view from Thursday, 26th inst. at 3 p.m.
Terms—Cash.
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On SATURDAY,
February 28th, 1920, at 2.30 p.m.,
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VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE therein contained.
Comprising:—Hallstand, Blackwood Table and Stands, Arm-chairs and Chesterfield Sofa (Lane Crawford make) good as new, Blackwood Furniture comprising Cabinets, Music Stand, Blackwood Overmantel, &c., &c., Engravings, Water Colours, Oil Paintings, Curios, &c., Carpets, Rugs and Curtains, Fumed Teak Sideboard, Extension Dining Table and Chairs, Silver Ware, Cabinets, Glass and Crockery Ware, and a quantity of good Electro-plate, Massive Brass Bedstead, handsomely carved Cherrywood Bureau, Wardrobes, Toilet Tables, Camphorwood Chest of drawers, &c., Enamelled Baths, American Ice Chest, Sewing Machine, &c., &c.
Also
Electric Fittings and Fans, Piano made for the Climate by Collard & Collard, large American Combination Safe, &c., &c.
(Full Particulars from Catalogue).
On view from Friday 27th inst. at 3 p.m.
Terms—Cash.
HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers. 437

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11

BIRTHS.

BELL.—At No. 89, Bubbling Well Road, Shanghai, on February 16th, the wife of F. HAYLEY BELL of a son.
FORSTER.—At 145, Barker Road, The Peak, on February 20th, to Mr. and Mrs. L. FORSTER, a daughter. 449

MARRIAGE.

THOMAS—GOURDIN.—At the Union Church, Kennedy Road, on Saturday, February 21st, at 11 a.m., by the Rev. J. Kirk Macdonald, NORMAN, third daughter of the late Mr. A. O'D. Gourdin and of Mrs. Gourdin, of 32, Nashat Road, Kowloon, to GEORGE HAROLD THOMAS, M.D., of the Tung Wah Hospital. 452

DEATHS.

DODWELL.—At San Francisco, on Feb. 13th, NORMAN CARR DODWELL, of influenza, aged 29. 450
HAYWARD.—At the Everett, Brown, Chester, Woman's Hospital, Soochow, on February 18th, ELIZABETH, widow of the late EDWARD HAYWARD.
REMEDIOS.—At Hospital San Rafael, on February 21st, at 10.30 p.m., JOSE GONZALEZ DOS REMEDIOS, the beloved husband of Guilhermina Esmeralda Orosio dos Remedios, aged 67 years. Deeply regretted. Shanghai and Northern papers please copy. 451
REMYSTUP.—At the General Hospital, Shanghai, on February 18th, J. P. REMYSTUP. 452

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VOEUX ROAD, C.
KOWLOON OFFICE: 181, FLAT STAMM, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, FEBRUARY 23RD, 1920.

GOVERNMENT CONTROL AND BUSINESS METHODS.

THE experience of the past year or two has proved quite plainly that State interference with the free play of economic forces inevitably raises unexpected problems and produces extremely difficult situations. The coal trade of Great Britain is a case in point. A short time ago, during one of those constantly recurring agitations about the high cost of living with which we have all become familiar, the Home Government offered a sop to householders in the shape of a 10/- per ton reduction

in the price of coal for domestic purposes. But coal required for industry or export was carefully excluded from the operation of the provision. It was stated at the time by the experts that differentiation would cause trouble. The manufacturers raised a cry that it was equivalent to a tax upon industry. At the same time the Coal Controller was told that the mining magnates would know how to deal with the situation in their own interests. And in the result this prophecy has come true. Recent news from Home is that household coal at the Government controlled price of 10/- per ton less than other grades is in short supply—so much so that over whole areas of the country when the last mail left there was a veritable coal famine. In some places no coal could be obtained at any price; in others, the small quantities available were being doled out in half hundred weights, and people were glad to get even such meagre supplies. Coal queues were to be seen in the poor districts of London. There was a great deal of grumbling, and not a little bitterness, and a general feeling that somebody or other ought to be banged on account of so many fireless grates in mid-Winter. Instead of distributing supplies at the price fixed by the Coal Controller the trade was diverting it from the domestic hearth to the mill and the factory, or sending it abroad. It was said that, owing to the preferential rate of 10/- per ton coal, which would otherwise have been distributed normally as "household," was being dispatched from the collieries labelled "industrial" or "export." Some colour is lent to the charge—at all events in the case of the last-mentioned consignments—by the fact that in the month of December 2,935,855 tons were exported, against 2,092,289 tons, in the corresponding period last year—an increase of nearly a million tons. And seeing that the export price of coal was about £5 per ton f.o.b. perhaps the fact is not surprising. It is double the price of household coal. "Business is business," as the old proverb says, and colliery owners are business men. They are not likely to sell at a fixed price when there is a free market for overseas supplies, and the profit is immensely greater.

From the outset of Government control of industry, bureaucratic methods and management have been more or less a muddle. In regard to coal as well as in many other directions, State interference has tended to produce chaos. It may be recalled that in 1915, when the man-power at the mines was seriously depleted owing to the enlistment of miners, the Government failed to put into operation the special clause in the Mines Eight Hours Act which provided for the suspension of that measure in the event of war or other national emergency. Nor was any appeal made to the miners to put in overtime and speed up production in order to maintain output. Instead, committees and controllers were appointed, and this policy has been pursued ever since, involving enormous expenditure of public money without adequate return. Before the war the production of coal was equal to 5 tons per miner per week. After 1915 it fell to 4½ tons, later to 4 tons, and when the figures for 1919 are available it will probably be found that the output per head is no more than 4 tons. All that can be shown for State control, therefore, is vastly reduced production, on which the consumer is charged double the pre-war price; and this has led up to the position that exists at the moment when the country is faced with a coal famine. In addition to this unsatisfactory state of affairs complaint is made that the position in respect of coal, bad enough in all conscience, is made worse by the middle of the Ministry of Transport. Not only is there less coal at the pit-head for distribution, but the supplies available cannot be got away for lack of wagons. Stories are appearing in the papers of trucks needed for coal being sent round the country laden with beer barrels, sand, road-dressing, manure and sundry other things; and that, in many instances, coal trucks are only making two journeys a month. This, say the critics, comes of Government trying to teach railway experts their business.

As bearing directly upon the coal shortage it may be noted that the failure of Government Departments to make a success of huge industrial or commercial undertakings is a decidedly awkward fact for the advocates of nationalisation. The Trade Unions are pledged to this policy, which is the main plank in their political programme. They want to nationalise industry, and substitute by Socialistic jugglery the State for the private employer. When they talk about it nothing could be more beautiful in theory; but, since the war ended, the public have had a number of useful object-lessons on the fallacy of theories when tested in practice. For lack of a better reason to account for the position in which the country now finds itself with regard to coal, the nationalisation pundits are declaring that the blunders already made are part of a deep-laid plot to discredit that most beneficent departure. But we do not suppose that anybody blessed with sanity believes the assertion. Certainly there is not a modicum of evidence to support it. The failure of State control, so far as it has gone, is due to defects that are inherent in any system of bureaucratic management; of trading concerns. It is unfortunate that "the man in the street" does not always clearly grasp this elementary truth. He is rather apt to blame Government officials as a parcel of incompetents, but, of course, what is really at fault is the system. Government Departments are not equipped for running big commercial enterprises successfully, and the men in charge have not the requisite incentive or experience for the work. There is no sense of personal responsibility. Unlike a commercial man, an official has not the vital necessity placed upon him to make an undertaking pay its way and show a profit on capital. In the business world a manager who committed a tithe of the blunders which so frequently happen under State management, would promptly lose his job, and rightly so, for a firm which lost money as the Government has done in certain directions—the sum of £30,000,000 was lost on the Government controlled railways last year—would soon find itself in the Bankruptcy Court. The average Government official is, of course, merely the instrument by means of which Departmental policy is carried out. If the policy succeeds, well and good; if it does not, it is still well and good so far as individuals are concerned, for the financial loss, as in the case of the railways, is borne by the poor, patient taxpayer.

In the coming months a good deal will in all probability be heard of nationalisation, round which political stalwarts will fight desperately. It will be intensely interesting, and, of course, the issue is of the gravest importance to the future of the country. It is, perhaps, not altogether an unmitigated evil that there has been muddle and mismanagement over coal, railways, transport, and other undertakings, since these things have made the public extremely critical, and, on the whole, antagonistic to State interference with trade and industry. The lesson which has been learnt by bitter experience can be stated in a nutshell. It is that while the political side of Government may be a very good game for lawyers and agitators, it is essential that business should be left to business men.

The Church of England Diocesan Conference is to be held to-morrow at St. Paul's College at 10 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.
Petty Officer C. H. Lawrence of H.M.S. "Carleton" has been awarded the Naval medal for long service and good conduct.
Mr. W. A. Rose, of the Eastern Telegraph Company's staff, at Singapore has been appointed Superintendent in charge of the Company's station at Sharp Peak, Fochow.
The Royal Hongkong Yacht Club announces a Rowing Regatta for next Saturday. In the event of unfavourable weather, there will be dancing in the Club house between the events.
It is reported that in the armed robbery at Ping Shan, which took place on Thursday, a man was shot at and wounded by the robbers. The man is stated to be lying in a serious condition at the hospital.
Exceptionally fine weather has been prevailing in the China Sea. One Captain is reported in a Singapore paper as saying that such calm weather conditions have not been met in the China Sea for many years past.
The China New Year holidays in Hongkong were marked on Friday and Saturday by weather very unfavourable to outdoor pleasures, but in spite of the rain the motor garages of the Colony seemed to be doing good business with Chinese joy riders.
An armed robbery is reported to have been attempted on Saturday night at Quarry Bay. Five or six men, one armed with a dagger, entered a Chinese dwelling-house, but were unable to steal anything as an alarm was raised immediately, and the robbers had to take to their heels.

The first match in the Open Billiard Championship of the Colony for 1920, held under the auspices of the Victoria Recreation Club, will be played to-night at 8.30 p.m. between W. J. Lancaster and J. Parkes. To-morrow's match between E. Guimaraes and P. A. Yranovich has been postponed owing to the former player being indisposed.

GREAT BOLSHEVIK ACTIVITY: INTRODUCE INDUSTRIAL CONSCRIPTION:

TEN DIVISIONS CROSS THE DNIESTER:

RUMANIA PREPARES TO DEFEND HERSELF.

AMERICAN OFFER TO RUMANIA:

LARGE LOAN FOR PETROL CONCESSION.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BOLSHEVIKS CROSS THE DNIESTER.

RUMANIA BEGINS MILITARY
PREPARATIONS.

LONDON, February 18th.

The *Daily Express* Vienna correspondent says that ten Bolsheviki Divisions are reported to have crossed the Dniester, which the Rumanians have strongly fortified, and a movement has been started to place the Rumanian Army on war footing. It is believed that the Allies will be asked for a large amount of war material and financial support to fight the Bolsheviki.

LOAN TO RUMANIA.

UNITED STATES ASK PETROL
CONCESSION IN RETURN.

LONDON, February 18th.

The *Daily Mail* Geneva correspondent says that the United States has offered Rumania a loan of \$200,000 in return for the exploitation of Rumanian petrol for sixty years.

SERIOUS OUTLOOK IN THE CRIMEA.

FEARS OF GREAT BOLSHEVIK
TRIUMPH.

LONDON, February 18th.

The Associated Press Constantinople correspondent depicts the serious situation in the Crimea and declares that Allied officials apprehend a general Bolsheviki triumph through internal dissension, also that the Reds may reach the isthmus across the Taurus mountains. Ten thousand persons in Sebastopol are most anxious to leave the city, while eleven thousand refugees have arrived from Odessa. Typhus is raging. Allied warships at Sebastopol are unable to evacuate the population owing to the absence of authority from their respective Governments, and no ports are available to accommodate the refugees.

BOLSHEVIK SUCCESSES.

INTRODUCTION OF INDUSTRIAL
CONSCRIPTION.

LONDON, February 18th.

The weekly authoritative summary states that in the Bolsheviki offensive which is proceeding in North Russia, where the situation is serious, the Reds carried the Russian forward lines in the Onega valley and along the Vologda Railway, largely owing to the mutiny of a Russian regiment whose commander and most of the officers were killed by their own men, five hundred of whom deserted to the Reds. The North Russian Government has resigned, and has handed over power to General Miller. The Bolsheviki claim that the captures in Odessa included 200 officers, 30,000 men, and 100 guns. The Bolsheviki have introduced industrial conscription by transforming the former military armies into labour armies at Kazan, Perm, Moscow, Cherepovet and other places, chiefly on account of mutinies.

EARLIER CABLES.

THE SACK OF ODESSA.

TERRIBLE CHAPTER IN HISTORY
OF BOLSHEVISM.

LONDON, February 18th.

The *Daily Telegraph* Constantinople correspondent states that the story of the recapture and sack of Odessa is one of the most terrible chapters in the history of Bolshevism. The city was not taken by the advancing Red Army but by the dregs of the population who knew that the spirit of the Volunteer Army in the city was utterly broken. Looting of the defenceless city went on all day and night, and thousands were massacred under the eyes of Denikin's officers, who made no effort to crush the insurrection. The only resistance offered was by a band of boy cadets, aged ten and upwards, who defended the quays, despite heavy casualties, and were finally rescued by British sailors. About 12,000 refugees were taken from Odessa aboard British ships.

GENERAL DENKIN AND THE COSSACKS.

AN AGREEMENT REACHED.

LONDON, February 17th.

The *Times* correspondent at Novorossiysk says Denikin has reached an agreement with the Cossacks whereby he remains Generalissimo but ceases to be Dictator. A Parliamentary regime has been formed with an elective Legislative Assembly and a Cabinet of eight. Denikin has declared that the military situation is improving and the front can be held if the Kuban forces immediately go to the front. Meanwhile the Bolsheviki advance in the Caucasus has been held up.

LATEST CABLES.

AMERICAN RAILROAD DISPUTE.

PRESIDENT WILSON'S SUCCESS-
FUL INTERVENTION.

WASHINGTON, February 15th.

The Railway Union leaders agreed to delay their further demands after President Wilson announced that he intended to appoint a Commission of wage experts to investigate thoroughly the railwaymen's claims. President Wilson's letter stated that if, when the railroads were returned to private ownership, laws were enacted providing machinery for dealing with the wages of railwaymen, he would use his influence to bring about the earliest practicable organisation of the machinery thus provided, but, if provision was not made legislatively, he pledged himself to employ his influence to get the railroad companies and employees to join promptly in the creation of a tribunal to take up the problem.

The letter coincided with the warning to the Railroad Brotherhoods that any other course than co-operation with the Government would not only gravely injure the public, but it would also be a serious blow to the principle of collective bargaining.

EARLIER CABLES.

PRESIDENT WILSON PROPOSES A SETTLEMENT.

WASHINGTON, February 15th.

President Wilson has proposed a settlement in connection with the demands of railwaymen for higher wages. The railwaymen have agreed to consider the proposal.

THE RESIGNATION OF MR LANSING.

AMERICAN PEOPLE CRITICISE
THE PRESIDENT.

NEW YORK, February 18th.

Practically every newspaper in the country appears to support Mr. Lansing against President Wilson, whose action is variously described as "ungrateful, unseemly, and unexplainable," whilst the characteristics of the President's illness are stated to be "petulance, peevishness, asperity and excessive sensitiveness."

A resolution has been introduced in the House of Representatives calling upon the Foreign Affairs Committee to investigate whether Mr. Lansing has violated the Constitution by calling meetings without the President's consent. In some quarters it is believed that the real trouble is due to President Wilson's idea that an attempt is being made to invoke the Article of the Constitution providing that the President's duties be assumed by the Vice-President in the event of the former not being able to carry them out.

Whatever the real reason, the American public sides warmly with Mr. Lansing and believes his effort to carry on during the President's illness was not a sufficient cause for dismissal.

AMERICA'S PACIFIC NAVAL BASE.

MAY BE ESTABLISHED IN
ALAMEDA.

WASHINGTON, February 15th.

Mr. Joseph Daniels is accepting the offer of a site as a naval base from the town of Alameda, conditional on the necessary Congressional appropriations. It is stated that the Navy's most pressing need was a base in California.

THE OLYMPIC GAMES.

U.S.A. GOVERNMENT TO SUPPORT
AMERICAN TEAM.

WASHINGTON, February 14th.

After conferring with high Government officials, the Olympic Games Committee has obtained official Government sanction and support for the American team which will be entered at Antwerp. President Wilson has provisionally accepted the Honorary Presidency of the Committee and Mr. Newton Baker and Mr. Joseph Daniels will be Honorary Vice-Presidents.

FRENCH SHIPPING DISASTER.

SHIP ON FIRE: PASSENGERS
MISSING.

PARIS, February 16th.

A communication states that all efforts have been unsuccessful to find the steamship *Ville d'Alger*, which sent a wireless message on the evening of February 1st, that she was on fire 150 miles from Reunion, carrying 91 passengers and 60 crew, as well as a cargo of rum and sugar. The *Ville d'Alger* was preceded by her assistant and four of the *Ville d'Alger* on February 5th, on fire and abandoned. Subsequent searches did not reveal any wreckage. A boatload of the *Ville d'Alger's* survivors has arrived at Madagascar. It is feared that the remainder have perished.

FRENCH PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES.

AN INTERESTING INNOVATION.

PARIS, February 15th.

A Havas message says:—A Presidential message to the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate on Tuesday next, on the eve of expiry of his powers as President. The message will be read in the Chamber by M. Millerand, and in the Senate by M. Chaptieux, Keeper of the Seals. This farewell message, which is an innovation, is of course, exciting great interest, and has produced an excellent impression in Parliamentary circles. Another Presidential message will be addressed to Parliament during the week by M. Deschanel.

THE BULGARIAN TREATY.

FORMALLY RATIFIED BY ITALY.

ROME, February 18th.

Italy has formally ratified the Bulgarian Treaty.

LATEST CABLES.

INDIAN MARINE DOCKYARD STRIKE.

MEN RETURN ON OFFER OF
INCREASE OF PAY.

BOMBAY, February 15th.

The Indian Marine Dockyard men resumed work on the basis of a daily increase of four annas. The labour troubles now appear to be over.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

PROGRAMME OF HIS ROYAL
HIGHNESS'S TOUR.

LONDON, February 19th.

H.M.S. *Renown*, with His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales on board, will leave Portsmouth on March 9th, and arrive at Barbadoes on March 19th, at Colon on March 23rd, at Panama on March 24th, at San Diego on March 31st, at Honolulu on April 6th, at Fiji on April 13th and at Auckland on April 17th.

EARLIER CABLES.

AMERICA AND THE TREATY. PRESIDENT WILSON THREATENS THE ALLIES.

NEW YORK, February 17th.

An Associated Press message from Washington announces officially that President Wilson's Memorandum informed the Allies that the United States might have to consider withdrawing from the Treaty with the Senate if the Allies proceeded with their plans without the consent of the United States.

THE ALLIES' CONCILIATORY ATTITUDE.

PARIS, February 17th.

Le Matin says the Allied reply to President Wilson's Note has been delayed owing to a decision to revise the draft, because the question is regarded as the most important, since the conclusion of hostilities and owing to the subsequent intervention of Viscount Grey, Mr. Chamberlain and Lord Robert Cecil. The Note is likely to be more conciliatory than forecasted yesterday. Britain and France desire the closest co-operation with the United States, but point out that they cannot abandon decisions reached while the United States voluntarily absented herself from the Peace Conference.

LATEST CABLES.

NO COMMUNICATION FROM VISCOUNT GREY.

LONDON, February 18th.

It is officially declared that the Supreme Council received no communication from Viscount Grey on the subject of the reply to President Wilson.

EARLIER CABLES.

CANNOT PARTICIPATE IN FIUME SETTLEMENT.

WASHINGTON, February 17th.

White House officials declare that President Wilson's Adriatic Note is not a threat to withdraw from European affairs, but the United States cannot participate in the settlement of Fiume, including the partitioning of the Adriatic, if Jugo-Slavia is forced into the settlement. It is suggested that the United States might cease European relief work if the Peace Treaty is modified contrary to the principle of self-determination.

POLICING THE ADRIATIC.

WASHINGTON, February 17th.

It is announced that the United States will be one of the five nations to police the Adriatic.

A COMPROMISE DEMANDED.

PARIS, February 18th.

The *London correspondent* of the *Echo* states:—M. Millerand and Mr. Lloyd George, in replying to President Wilson, declare that they abide by the solution of the Adriatic problem. They have notified to Jugo-Slavia that on January 20th, Mr. Lloyd George, acting as President of the Peace Conference, sent a letter to Mr. Trumbach, the Jugo-Slav Foreign Minister, emphasising that unless Jugo-Slavia accepts a compromise the Treaty of London will be carried out.

FRANCE AND JUGO-SLAVIA.

FALSE REPORTS OF MILITARY
ALLIANCE.

PARIS, February 14th.

Italian newspapers recently published documents purporting to show that a Military Alliance has been proposed between France and Jugo-Slavia. A semi-official Havas statement denounces the documents as forgeries, and says that no agreement of the kind has taken place.

FRANCE AND THE RHINE.

INTERESTING REVELATIONS IN
FRENCH PAPER.

PARIS, February 14th.

A Havas message says:—Interesting revelations are now being made by M. Andre Tardieu in *L'Illustration* concerning the negotiations of the Big Three that led France to abandon her claim to the occupation and independence of the left bank of the Rhine, in return for the defensive Alliance proposed by President Wilson and Mr. Lloyd George.

FRANCE AND ENEMY TONNAGE.

NEGOTIATIONS NOW PROCEEDING
IN LONDON.

PARIS, February 14th.

A Havas message says:—Deputies, yesterday, an interpellation on France's share of enemy tonnage was adjourned. The Under-Secretary for Mercantile Marine having said that negotiations were taking place at present in London.

DISTURBED IRELAND.

MORE DISGRACEFUL INCIDENTS.

LONDON, February 16th.

About fifty armed and masked men at 3 o'clock on Sunday morning attacked the Ballinacorney Police Station, near Dundalk, which was occupied by six policemen. Brick firing and bombing by both sides continued for three hours, when a terrific explosion blew up the building, burying four policemen in the debris. The raiders carried away all arms and ammunition. No arrests have been made. The policemen were sent to hospital. Another raid took place in a private house at Cork by four armed men who held up the occupant and demanded arms, to which request he replied by shooting one of the assailants in the breast, the occupant himself being shot in both arms. The raiders got away, carrying their wounded comrade.

GENERAL TOWNSEND.

WITHDRAWS HIS RESIGNATION.

LONDON, February 17th.

In the House of Commons at question-time, Sir Archibald Williamson, for the War Office, stated that General Townsend had withdrawn his resignation from the Army, which was based on a misapprehension of the regulations. General Townsend had been informed that he was free to retire on retired pay, but he had not yet replied.

EAST AFRICA.

REPRESENTATION OF INDIANS IN
THE GOVERNMENT.

LONDON, February 17th.

In the House of Commons, replying to Lt.-Col. Campion, Colonel Amery stated that as at present arranged the Indians in East Africa will be represented on the Legislative Council by two members nominated by the Governor. The question of the elective representation of Indians is being considered.

EAST PRUSSIA PLEBISCITE.

COMMISSION ABOUT TO START
WORK.

PARIS, February 14th.

A Havas message says:—The Inter-Allied Commission which will organise the plebiscite in the Marienwerder territory (East Prussia) leaves Paris to-morrow night. Mr. Ida is representing Japan.

FRENCH COAL STRIKE THREATENED.

AN OFFER OF PENSIONS.

PARIS, February 16th.

A Havas message says:—The French miners who threatened to stop work, have decided to postpone the strike, the Minister of Labour, in conference with the Miners' Delegates, having said that a Bill was being introduced which would provide for annual pensions of 1,100 francs from the age of 55 and 750 francs for miners' widows. The Delegates, however, have demanded other concessions.

AVIATION.

FROM LONDON TO THE CAPE.

LONDON, February 16th.

The *Times* correspondent at Cairo, telegraphing yesterday, says that Cockerell's machine has landed at Mongala.

COCKERELL FORCED TO LAND NEAR MONGALA.

LONDON, February 17th.

The Air Ministry states that Cockerell's machine was forced to land owing to shortage of petrol at Khor, 20 miles north of Mongala. The machine and passengers are safe.

M. BAOUËL PERET.

NEW PRESIDENT OF FRENCH
CHAMBER.

PARIS, February 13th.

A Havas message says:—M. Baouël Peret was yesterday elected President of the French Chamber. He is a lawyer and has been member for Poitiers since 1902, representing the Left Radical Party. He controlled the postal and telegraphic services for some time and became later Minister of Justice, in the Faure Government.

M. POINCARÉ.

A WELL-DESERVED HONOUR.

PARIS, February 13th.

A Havas message says:—M. Poincaré was yesterday presented with a Cross by the City of St. Quentin. The Senate unanimously confirmed the tribute paid by the Chamber to M. Poincaré, that he deserved well of his country.

MARSHAL FOCH'S LIMOUSINE.

SOLD FOR FIVE TIMES ITS
ORIGINAL COST.

PARIS, February 15th.

A Havas message says:—The famous blue-black limousine which conveyed Marshal Foch along the French and Italian fronts, was sold yesterday for 74,000 francs. It was requisitioned originally for 15,000 francs.

SERBIAN CABINET RESIGNS.

ATTITUDE OF THE PRINCE
REGENT.

BEGRAD, February 15th.

The Davidovich Cabinet has resigned owing to the Prince Regent refusing the Government's advice to dissolve Parliament and order elections for the National Constituent Assembly.

THE FUTURE OF AUSTRIA.

TO BE MADE A FEDERAL STATE.

VIENNA, February 17th.

A conference of Austrian Provincial Representatives at Salzburg, including Socialists, voted for the transformation of Austria into a Federal State.

FAR EASTERN CABLE NEWS.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

NEW ACTING MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

PEKING, February 22nd.

Oben Lu, who is returning to Peking, has been appointed acting Minister of Foreign Affairs, pending the assembly of Parliament when it is expected that his name will be submitted. The Minister, Lut Sen-hsiang has been offered the position of Chief Diplomatic Adviser.

NEW YEAR CELEBRATION IN PEKING.

Though it was unofficially observed, China New Year was more popularly celebrated this year than ever before, crackers continuing from Thursday evening to Saturday. The main streets were illuminated at night by red lanterns. Business has been suspended for five days. That the snow-fall gave good luck is the feeling of the Chinese.

CHINA MEDICAL MISSIONARY CONFERENCE.

Yesterday the China Medical Missionary Conference opened with a reception at the Rockefeller Hospital. There was a large attendance of distinguished medical men, including Professor Ales Hardlicka, from the Smithsonian Institute of New York, a Czech, who is a leading anthropologist. On Monday morning, Dr. Davenport delivers the presidential address, which will be followed by the election of secretaries.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

NEW AMERICAN RESERVATION ON SHANTUNG.

LONDON, February 18th.

The *Daily News* learns from New York that Senator Lodge's revised reservation on Shantung demands full liberty of action for the United States. Whereas the previous version limited this to trouble between China and Japan, this limitation is entirely struck out and the United States asserts an entirely free hand in the Far East.

JAPANESE CRUISERS VISITING FRANCE.

PARIS, February 13th.

A Havas message says:—The Japanese cruisers *Tokitsuna* and *Asama* will shortly visit Marseilles and Toulon. Vice-Admiral Horiochi, the Commander, is to visit Paris and the war front at the end of the month.

ALLIED MISSIONS BEING WELL TREATED.

COPENHAGEN, February 14th.

M. Trotsky has informed Mr. Litvinoff that the members of the Anglo-French and Italian Missions captured in Siberia are being well treated.

THE HOME TO TOKYO FLIGHT.

SYDNEY, February 13th.

The Caproni machine mentioned on February 6th as having left Salonika, has arrived and is resuming its flight to Adalia.

INTENSIVE BOLSHEVIK PRO- PAGANDA IN CHINA.

STOCKHOLM, February 15th.

According to a message from Helsinki, Russian newspapers state that 5,000 Chinese have joined the Bolsheviki Army for the purpose of receiving special training in Russian military schools. The Bolsheviki are carrying on an intense propaganda in China where they hope that the Soviet system will soon be introduced.

BIG BOLSHEVIK SCHEME TO EMBROIL ASIA.

LONDON, February 16th.

The *Times* correspondent at Delhi states that it is reliably declared that the Bolsheviki plans for an intense external propaganda include Persia, Afghanistan, India and China. The Bolsheviki hope to produce a state of chaos within two years when the internal reconstruction of Russia is completed. By gifts of arms and ammunition, loans, military instructors, trained gunners and aeroplanes it is hoped to induce Afghanistan to attack India, with the consequent defeat and deposition of the Amir, thereby provoking anarchy and producing conditions for establishing an Afghan Soviet Republic, and when the north of India is saturated with Soviet doctrines and lured into rebellion there would be an opportunity for a great Bolsheviki attack on India.

CHINESE CREWS ON BRITISH SHIPS.

LONDON, February 14th.

Seamen at Newport (Monmouthshire) have decided to hold up the Blue Anchor liner *Albion Star* until the Chinese crew is removed and replaced by British. A Strike Committee has been formed and no seamen are signing on in any of the ships.

Capt. O. P. Talbot, D.S.O., commander of the Sixth Submarine Flotilla, China Squadron, who has recently been created a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour, has the following interesting record:—Borne in Maidstone, for command of the commander from October 1916, 1917, Com- manded E.S. during action in Heligoland Bight, August 25th, 1914, and promoted to commander for same September 21st following. While in command of E.S. he torpedoed German destroyer V. 138 off the enemy coast, July 25th, 1915, D.S.O. for this service. Borne in *Oryx* November 1915, 1916, and *Titanica*, 1916, for com- mand of submarines. Assistant to com- modore in charge of submarine service, September, 1916, 1917, in command of *Ambrase*, and of a submarine flotilla, September, 1917, 1918. Has the Royal Humane Society's bronze medal for saving an A.B. from drowning at Har- low in May, 1902.

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Re-painting a speciality.

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If the price of the Ford had advanced since 1914,
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would cost about \$4,000 to-day! Made in Canada.

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HONGKONG TO SAN FRANCISCO,
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The most comfortable route to America and Europe.

SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG AT NOON.

S.S. "VENEZUELA" ... Saturday, Feb. 26th.
S.S. "ECUADOR" ... Wednesday, Mar. 24th.

ALSO

The following U.S. Shipping Board vessels

S.S. "WEST SELENE" ... Wednesday, Feb. 25th.

HONGKONG-CALCUTTA SERVICE.

S.S. "LAKE CHURCH" ... Wednesday, Feb. 25th, for Madras & Singapore, Port
Swettenham, Penang, Rangoon and Calcutta.

S.S. "CADDOPPEAK" ... Friday, Feb. 27th, for Madras via Saigon, Singapore,
Port Swettenham, Penang, Rangoon and Calcutta.

S.S. "LAKE FIELDING" ... For SHANGHAI ... Wednesday, Feb. 25th.

Cargo accepted on through Bills of Lading to Baltimore, Havana, Mexico,
Central and South American ports.

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ELECTRIC
ENGINEERS.

TAIKOO DOCKYARD & ENGINEERING COMPANY
OF HONGKONG, LIMITED.

—DRY DOCK—

Length 787 Feet.

Length on Blocks 750 Feet

Depth on Centre of

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—THREE SLIPWAYS—

Capable of Handling Ships Up

to 3,000 Tons Displacement.

Electric Crane at Sea Wall, Capable of

Lifting 100 Tons at 70 Feet Radius

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TEL. ADDRESS: "TAIKOO DOCK," HONGKONG.

AGENT

TELEPHONE No. 511.

Cable Address: "O" OVER AND PENANG. HONGKONG, CHINA & JAPAN.

MEANING OF "F.O.B."

AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TAKES ACTION.

The American Chamber of Commerce in London has sent the following despatch to the United States Press:

The different interpretations given to the same shipping quotations in the United States and in Great Britain are causing minor upsets in Anglo-American trade relations that eventually will be America's foreign trade, no good and possibly much harm.

The American Chamber of Commerce in London says that there are an unfortunate number of cases where trouble has arisen because the American interpretation of F.O.B., f.o.s., etc., differs from that established and accepted in the world trade of British merchants for half a century or more.

Numerous cases having come to its attention recently, the American Chamber of Commerce in London has arranged a series of informal conferences with such organizations as the Federation of British Iron, Steel, Plate and Metal Merchants, the American Express Company, representing ocean shipping on both sides of the water, U.S. Shipping Board in London.

The object of these conferences will be to determine the accepted definition of these shipping quotations on this side of the water as well as the varying interpretations put on them in the United States. If for any reason it appears impossible or impracticable to unify the interpretation of these terms on both sides of the water, the American Chamber of Commerce in London plans to draw up and circulate through all chambers of commerce, etc., the parallel definitions. In this way the buyer or seller in either country may always know in advance what a quotation from the other country means or how his own quotation will be interpreted there.

A prominent British merchant says the prompt action of the American Chamber is just what we have learned to expect in view of its many services to members and to Anglo-American trade in general during the period of import and export restrictions. The effort deserves recognition and support in both countries.

A report may be expected shortly, and the American Chamber of Commerce in London hopes that this will clarify the present misunderstanding arising from such causes. Later it is hoped to do the same thing with other questions affecting Anglo-American trade.

THE RISE IN THE RUPEE

An article on "India" in the "Times" annual Financial and Commercial Review, on January 23rd, opens with a reference to the rise in exchange and describes the attribution of this solely to the rise in silver as one of the half-truths almost misleadingly underlying the rise in the rupee is that India during the war has developed a strong money power. Before the war she was a supplicant of London for a few beggarly millions of capital per year, but now she has 100 millions in British securities. The writer goes on to compare the Mackay Committee's estimate of twelve and half millions the maximum capital that could be raised yearly for Indian railways with the expenditure provided in the last budget.

The article in dealing with the currency problem suggests that India must be weaned from excessive dependence on precious metals by an extension of the banking system, and argues that this would leave the balance of trade to be adjusted in precious metals, since with her wealth effectively organized, India could be in a position to enormously expand her demand for manufactured goods, either under auspices of the State for works like railways, irrigation development, or through joint stock companies for machinery to develop industries. She could buy back her foreign debt and even invest abroad.

On the other hand the article states that India has now reached the stage when progressive forces are aroused. The standard of sanitation, both urban and rural, is deplorably low. The country consequently is susceptible to fearful devastating epidemics. All the revenue which India can develop for the next generation, and more, will be required to educate, house and provide healthy surroundings for her people and the growth of revenue which may accrue ought to be supplemented by loans in order to quicken the pace.

RUBBER SHARES.

At London writer, on January 8th, says that in the rubber share market there has been persistent buying of a solid type and quotations once more finish higher all round. During the year there has undoubtedly been a great accession of investors new to the rubber market. The promise of future large dividends is constantly bringing in fresh buyers, many of whom are putting money into rubber shares, not in doubtless, but upon a really large scale. Perhaps the most noteworthy feature for some time past has been the pronounced demand for heavy investment shares, and it is hardly surprising that the supply of these is becoming very scanty. An event which had a great effect in bringing home to the investing public the enormous potentialities of motor transport and consequent consumption of rubber, was the railway strike. Looking back over the year 1919, it can be clearly seen that the rubber market has now definitely established itself as one of the most important investment sections of the Stock Exchange. Rubber shares combine in themselves a peculiar way the merits of a solid commercial investment with big speculative possibilities, so that it is not surprising to find that they are steadily gaining new adherents in Scotland and the provinces furnish strong contingents. With ability to produce at 1s. or less per lb., many companies, with the commodity averaging round 2s. 6d., will pay dividends that will justify substantially higher share quotations in this section.

NOTICES TO CONSIGNEES

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE

THE Steamship

"YATSHING"

Having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Wharves and Godowns Co., Ltd., situated at the wharves of the Straits and Calcutta.

Goods may be delivered by the 25th Feb., will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns where they will be examined. Claims against the steamer must be presented within 10 days of arrival, otherwise they will not be recognized.

No First Language will be affected by us in any case whatsoever.

Claims will be counterbalanced by

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.,

General Managers.

Hongkong, February 18th, 1920. (448)

AMERICAN & MANCHURIAN LINE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM NEW YORK

THE Steamship

"MATOPPO"

Having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Wharves, Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained.

No Claim will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godown, and all Goods remaining undelivered after February 23rd, will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the U.S. Consignee, or before March 1st, 1920, 1920, or they will not be recognized.

All broken, chafed and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godown where they are to be examined on any Tuesday or Friday between the hours of 10 A.M. and Noon, within the free storage period.

My First Language has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be counterbalanced by

THE BANK LINE LIMITED,

General Agents.

Hongkong, February 18th, 1920. (429)

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION CO.

STEAMERS FOR STRAITS, CEYLON, BOMBAY, EGYPT, MEDITER-

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Through Bills of Lading issued for

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THE Home Mail Steamer

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carrying His Majesty's Mail, will be

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INDO-CHINA

STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

SAILINGS (SUBJECT TO ALTERATION)

SHANGHAI ... "HANGSHANG" ... Tues. 24th Feb. 11.15 a.m.

... "CHEONGSHING" ... Tues. 24th Feb. 5.30 p.m.

... "KUMSANG" ... Tues. 24th Feb. 5.30 p.m.

... "HENSANG" ... Tues. 24th Feb. 5.30 p.m.

... "YUENSANG" ... Tues. 24th Feb. 5.30 p.m.

... "CHASANG" ... Tues. 24th Feb. 5.30 p.m.

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